

Remarks

Claims 19-20, 27, and 43-44 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1-18, 21-26, 28-42, and 45-53 have been canceled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 3, 6-8, and 42 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 3, 6-8, and 42 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 40 and 41 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being substantial duplicates of claims 4 and 5. Claims 4, 5, 40 and 41 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1-3 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Soled et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,518,707). Claims 1-3 and 6-7 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1, 4-5, 8, 35-37, 40-42, and 45-47 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Isogai et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,650,911). Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 35-37, 40-42, and 45-47 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1, 9, 12-13, 16-17, 22-26, 28, 33-34, and 38-39 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated, or, alternatively under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Yoo (U.S. Patent No. 3,917,737). Claims 1, 9, 12-13, 16-17, 22-26, 28, 33-34, and 38-39 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1, 9-17, and 48 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Chang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,661,623). Claims 1, 9-17, and 48 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1, 29-30, and 38-39 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Chu et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,245,707). Claims 1, 29-30, and 38-39 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1, 29, 32, and 38-39 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Hirai et al (JP 59138066A). Claims 1, 29, 32, and 38-39 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008, claims 1 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Lyons et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,672,778). Claims 1 and 29-32 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action of June 19, 2008 the Examiner indicated that claims 18-20, 27, and 44 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 18 has been cancelled. Claims 19, 27, and 43 have been rewritten in independent form containing all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 20 and 44 depend from the currently amended claims 19 and 43, respectively.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining pending claims 19-20, 27, and 43-44.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. KNIFTON, TALMADGE G. JAMES,
LYNN H. SLAUGH, PAUL R. WEIDER,
KEVIN D. ALLEN, and JOSEPH B. POWELL

By their attorney



Richard B. Taylor
Registration No. 37,248
Senior Counsel
Shell Oil Company
(713) 241-3558

P. O. Box 2463
Houston, Texas 77252-2463